

MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION – BAGHDAD

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Operation Winged Victory takes flight

1st Lt. Dahbry Streets
1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt.

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army

Division, conducted a combined three-day operation May 19-21 with Soldiers from

Multi-National Division – Baghdad's 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, attached to

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, along the Tigris River.

During Operation Winged Victory, Soldiers conducted reconnaissance of an area not frequently visited by Coalition Forces.

Sayafiyah is composed of mostly Shia farmers, which is similar to the composition of most areas in southern Baghdad. What makes this area different from other areas is the fact that most of the residents seem to have already embraced the ideals that Coalition Forces have fought so hard to bring about. The people there take ownership of their own communities.

“It is great to see the people of Sayafiyah coming together as one within their communities to fight the insurgency, and put a stop to the violence,” said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Nice, fire support noncommissioned officer, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt.

While in Sayafiyah, the combined units conducted numerous foot patrols, talking with many of the local residents of Sayafiyah.

“This predominantly Shia area displayed a positive attitude toward the new Iraqi government,” said Capt. Matthew Weber, commander, Company B, 1st Bn., 22nd Inf. Regt.

Overall, the people of Sayafiyah seemed happy to see Iraqi and Coalition Forces patrolling and helping to make the area more secure. The Soldiers were also able to gain information on the quality of essential services in the Sayafiyah area. This Shia enclave could one day pose as the model village for the future of Iraq.